

Ottawa, Ill., July 17, 1886.

Current Events.

During the past week the British parliamentary elections have resulted as follows:

The Tories have gained middle Leicestershire, where they elect E. de Lisle, conservative, over J. E. J. Ferguson, Gladstonian; East Renfrewshire, Scotland, where M. H. Shaw-Stewart, Gladstonian, is defeated, and South Huntingdonshire, where Smith-Burrow, conservative, is elected over T. Coote, Jr., Gladstonian. The conservatives have South Dorsetshire, where Col. Hambers has beaten Henry Sturgis; in the Leek division of Staffordshire Henry Davenport, Tory has beaten Charles Crompton, Liberal.

In the Crewe division of Cheshire the Gladstonians have returned W. S. McLaren over F. R. Frenlow, conservative. The Gladstonian have also elected Mr. Isaac Hoyle in the Haywood division of Lancashire, Mr. Francis A. Channing in East Northamptonshire, and L. MacDonald-Cameron in the Wick district.

North Norfolk returns Mr. Cozens Hardy, Liberal-Unionist.

The total count, with seventy-six seats to be heard from, now stands: Conservatives, 375; all others, 299. This gives the conservatives a plurality of seventy-three over the Liberals, but places them in a minority of four as compared with the members of all other parties.

The total number of votes polled up to the present throughout the kingdom for home rule is 2,206,208, against 3,143,898 for the Union. The progress of the Unionist voting, as it has gradually grown to its present proportions, has been accompanied by a gradual rise in the prices of shares of all the Irish railways and other investment securities in Ireland.

During the rioting at Belfast on Wednesday night between Catholics and Protestants four taverns and a number of dwelling-houses were wrecked. The police and soldiers charged the rioters several times, and at last succeeded in clearing the main streets. Among those wounded last night was a sergeant. A constable and many civilians received severe wounds. Investigation shows that most of the fighting was done between the police and the Orangemen, the latter assailing the officers because they prevented the Orangemen from attacking the Catholics. Policeman Gardner is fatally injured, and is lying at the point of death. Two civilians, named MacWaters and MacElroy, were shot dead. Fifteen persons are still in hospitals, suffering from dangerous wounds received during the riot.

Mr. Gladstone has written a rejoinder to the duke of Westminster's reply to the premier's charge that his grace struck a blow at the aristocracy by deserting liberalism to aid the election of Tory candidates by using money and carriages, in which he says that he does not challenge the propriety of the duke's action, but is grieved over it. He continues:

It was an act against patriotism; to disunite the classes and so impair the strength of the empire, is an act as grave as to strike a blow at aristocracy, which you did in 1866, when you took a chief part in destroying the reform bill and in ousting the government. Is it not possible that what you then did you may be doing now? In my eyes the present issue involves the honor of the empire. The civilized world has stamped England's Irish policy with discredit and disgrace. The government sought to cancel the past, on which you shut your eyes, and meet present and future demands, thinking England's honor should be cleared. I lament that this should be prevented.

On Thursday the twelfth juror in the anarchist murder cases, now being tried before Judge Gary in Chicago, was secured. Already three weeks have been consumed, and hundreds of men examined.

The following executive order was issued by the President on Wednesday:

EXECUTIVE MANDATE, WASHINGTON, July 14.—To the heads of departments in the service of the General Government: I deem this a proper time to especially warn all subordinates in several departments and all officials under the General Government against the use of their official positions in attempts to control political movements in their localities. Officials are the agents of the people, not their masters. Not only are their time and labor due to the government, but they should scrupulously avoid, in their political action as well as in the discharge of their official duty, offending by a display of obtrusive partisanship, their neighbors who have relations with them as public officials.

They should also constantly remember that their party friends from whom they have received preferment have not invested them with the power of arbitrarily managing their political affairs. They have no right as officeholders to dictate the political action of their party associates, or to befriend freedom of action within party lines by methods and justifiable purpose of party organization. The influence of Federal officeholders should not be felt in the manipulation of political primary meetings and nominating conventions. The use by these officials of their positions to compass their selection as delegates to political conventions is indecent and unfair, and proper regard for the proprieties and requirements of official place will also prevent their assuming the active conduct of political campaigns.

Individual interest and activity in politics are by no means condemned. Officeholders are neither disfranchised nor forbidden the exercise of political privileges, but their privileges are not enlarged nor is their duty to party increased to pernicious activity by officeholding. A just discrimination in this regard between the things a citizen may properly do and the purposes for which a public office should not be used, is easy, in the light of a correct appreciation of the relation between the people and those entrusted with official place, and a consideration of the necessity under our form of government of political action free from official coercion. You are requested to communicate the substance of these views to those for whose guidance they are intended.

GROVER CLEVELAND.

The senate on Wednesday, in considering the river and harbor bill, accepted the grant of the Illinois and Michigan canal, and approved of the appropriation of \$300,000 for commencing work on the Hennepin canal.

On Wednesday the resolution introduced by Mr. Morrison and reported from the Ways and Means Committee appropriating the surplus of the Treasury to paying government bonds, the whole amounting to

one hundred million dollars, passed the house by a vote of 307 yeas to 67 nays. Sixty-three republicans voted in favor of the measure and but fourteen democrats voted against it. Of the fourteen democrats voting against it nine were New York representatives, two Ohio, and one each from Massachusetts, Maryland and South Carolina. Of the sixty-three republicans who favored the measure fifty but a few minutes before had voted in favor of a motion made by McKinlay, of Ohio, to recommit. All of the Illinois members, with the exception of Adams and Dunham, voted in favor of the resolution.

RING OFF.

There never has been a preliminary political canvass carried on but that someone has seen fit to suggest that a "ring" is manipulating the party's voters in the interest of this candidate or to the injury of that. The statement is so easily made and requires so little evidence to accompany it that it is very largely indulged in even by those who know it to be utterly groundless.

Already in this county this "ring" talk is being heard among a number of people who ought to know better. The probability is that there is now no ring in the democratic party of this county, and as long as there are so many candidates for the various offices to be disposed of, there will be none. The candidates are all so suspicious of each other that the party at large is perfectly safe against a combination from any single set of men. In order to make such a combination successful it would necessitate candidates for each office joining their interests together and forming an alliance, offensive and defensive, a thing out of the question in a county with a population of La Salle, differing as it does so greatly in nationality, material interests, etc.

If democrats will give the matter close attention they will find that the "ring" jargon and chatter is being talked by those who are either of the republican party or of the so-called "independent" party. It is all with a purpose, and the purpose is to cause dissatisfaction among democrats. If the dissatisfaction ended with the close of the convention no harm could arise to the party, but it does not, it but fairly begins when the convention's adjournment is had. If democrats allow themselves to be duped by this "ring" theory, no matter who is nominated they will believe that the ticket is a "ring" ticket and in consequence the party will suffer in the November election. If any democrat thinks there is a democratic "ring" in this county, the best thing he can do is to turn out to the canvass of his town and see that the "ring" men do not carry out their nefarious designs.

A TRIFLE THIN.

Mr. Plumb, member of congress from this district, has taken upon himself the trouble to flood the district with copies of a speech alleged to have been written by him and delivered in the house some weeks since. Nominally the speech was perpetrated in aid of a measure designed to advance the material interests of the Knights of Labor, but in truth it was gotten up to advance the political interests of Dr. Evans's double. It would not be a violent presumption to presume that Mr. Plumb never wrote the speech which bears his name, and as for his having delivered it, that is out of the question. It is a speech that found a place in the *Congressional Record* through "leave to print"—a leave that a certain class of congressmen invariably avail themselves of for campaign purposes.

The burden of Mr. Plumb's effort is that he leaves the laboring men to a degree that outrivals the amorous passion of Shakespeare's gentle Romeo for his sweet Juliet, and that he has in mind no other thought than the advancement of their interests. The distress of the Streator statesman, through fear that some one will impose upon the Knights of Labor, now that he is desirous of their votes, is nothing short of heartrending, and we imagine that when he was working out his honied phrases, provided the speech was not written for him, he sweat great drops of blood. His agony of mind must have been indelible.

But one difficulty stands in the way of Mr. Plumb's making any great impression upon laboring men and that is, they know him to be hypocritical. He has fallen in the error, an error common to men of his class, of believing that the majority of his fellows are fools, and especially that class who earn "their bread in the sweat of their brow." Indulging such thought, he has sent among them this speech, but unfortunately for him these men know that, prior to his incumbency of the congressional office, he never had anything in common with them, and it is hardly probable that at the age of seventy his mind would undergo so radical a change as his speech indicates. It is too evident that Mr. Plumb now loves the laboring men solely for their ability to vote.

It is in the state of Illinois a more pronounced political moult than can be found than Hon. Ralph Plumb, M. C., we would like to know him.

MR. OBERLY AND CIVIL SERVICE.

When the President saw fit to transfer of his own motion John H. Oberly from the position of Superintendent of the Indiana School Service to that of Civil Service Commissioner, the republican editors with one accord denounced the act as a direct blow at the efficiency of the service and the appointment of Mr. Oberly as indicative of the falsity of democratic civil service reform professions.

The President, when the appointment was sent to the senate, took occasion to state to the newsmen at Washington that Mr. Oberly had been selected by him without being recommended by anyone, because he knew of his worth, his efficiency as a

public servant and of his ability to discharge the duties of the position to which he had named him. In short, the President selected Mr. Oberly because he felt that the public good would be more advanced with him upon the Civil Service Commission than by retaining him in the Interior Department.

Dispute, however, the manner in which the place came to him, no occasion has been lost by a partisan opposition press to speak of Mr. Oberly as nothing above a "machine politician" and "a spoilsman" embodying in his make up all the essentials of a politician pure and simple without any of those that belong to a patriotic love of his country. Blinded to the acts performed by the commissioner since assuming the office he now fills, the charges are still rung upon his having been chairman of a state democratic committee and his transfer therefrom to the position now occupied by him, though the fact is he had resigned his chairmanship long before he had been thought of as commissioner.

To republican editors who thus persist in blinding themselves and their readers to the fact of Mr. Oberly's fitness to fill the office now held by him we command a careful reading of the commendatory report of the commission, a report prepared by Mr. Oberly upon the course of Ex-Postmaster Vandy, of Baltimore, in evading the letter and the spirit of the civil service acts in making appointments to office. If republican editors still persist in misstating Mr. Oberly's position upon this, the most important question in American politics, they will do so in the face of the fact. Mr. Oberly is neither a "machine politician" nor a "spoilsman." He is instead a gentleman who has the courage of his convictions strong enough to discharge his duty under any and all circumstances, and those who are looking for him to assist in breaking down the efficiency of this branch of the government we are assured will be sorely disappointed.

Mr. George H. Madden today announces his candidacy for the position of County Treasurer, subject to the will of the democratic county convention. Mr. Madden is one of the younger men of the democratic party. He is thirty-two years of age, and was born in Mendota. Thus far he has never been an aspirant for official position, though he has occasionally been elected to township places. He is now engaged in banking, and has been for ten years past in Mendota, being the senior partner of the firm of Madden & Goodner.

Mr. Madden has always been active in the democratic politics of the north end of La Salle county, and is well known to the democracy of the towns about Mendota. His experience as a banker, his friends urge, fits him for a proper discharge of the duties attaching to the office of County Treasurer.

Following in the wake of other candidates, Mr. Patrick Barton today announces his candidacy for the office of Sheriff of La Salle county, subject to the will of the democratic convention. In a previous issue the Free Trader called attention to Mr. Barton's candidacy in the most complimentary manner. He is a farmer, residing in Eagle township—a gentleman of pleasant address—thoroughly honest and popular with his friends and neighbors. He has always been a democrat, and several times represented the democratic town of Eagle on the Board of Supervisors. Mr. Barton is now making an active canvass of the county.

Mr. John G. Armstrong will be a candidate for the position of alderman of the 4th ward, made vacant by the resignation of Jos. S. Elmore. Mr. Armstrong, if elected, will make a most efficient public officer as he is thoroughly familiar with all kinds of public affairs. Mr. W. B. Titus will be the opposing candidate.

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS.

The Week's Session—An Interesting One—Business Transacted.

MONDAY, JULY 12TH TO SATURDAY, JULY 17TH.

The opening session of the County Board of Supervisors is always interesting, bringing as it does to Ottawa some one from every township in the county, whose special business it is to look after the interests of the particular portion of the county wherein he resides, and at the same time have an eye to the well-being of the whole area of the county. Especially is the July session a session of interest, as at this meeting the new members come together to learn of the old—the old ones congregate to show off to the new ones, and to indulge in reminiscences of former deeds of prowess. Then, too, the chairman is to be elected and the committees to be appointed. This adds zest to the meeting, and calls forth a good deal of activity on the part of the ambitious members of the Board who want to make records that will insure a re-election.

The meeting of Monday was no exception to the general rule, and by an early hour a large number of the members were at the court house, looking over the ground on the chairmanship contest. For some weeks prior to the meeting of the Board it had been stated that there would be a formidable opposition to Supervisor Lewis, owing to his speech of the March session in criticism of the special pauper committee report of December. Certain it is that a good deal of talk was indulged in, and even up to the very meeting of the Board there was a rumor current that either Supervisor Fischer or Supervisor Eades would contest the honor with him. Somehow the opposition could not unite. They talked a vast amount, but when it came to action they were found wanting—so badly wanting that they only seemed interested in not losing their committees. Supervisor Lewis took no part in the contest, but his campaign was skillfully managed by Supervisors Reed and Griffin, who by ten o'clock were assured of the gentleman from Deer Park's election. It is probable that, as far as Supervisor Fischer is concerned, politics entered into his decision not to contest. It is rumored that he is very anxious to go to the Illinois State Senate as a republican, or if he cannot secure he will take the Treasuryship. Under this state of

circumstances he did not feel that he could afford to antagonize Mr. Lewis, and so he quietly wrapped his ambition up in a napkin and buried it, for the time at least. Messrs. Eades, Gunn and O'Loughlin were never seriously candidates. The whole of the morning was spent in wire-pulling, not only on the chairmanship affair, but also as to committees. There seemed to be a disposition to re-organize a number of the committees and to make changes in the chairmanships of two or three. This was a cause of worry, especially to the opponents of Lewis, who seemed afraid of the action he would take if re-elected.

At just two o'clock and seven minutes Clerk McKee called the assemblage to order, and upon a call of the roll the following members were found to be present:

Anderson, A. N. Adams, Rickok, L. B. Troy Grove, Hildebrand, A. Bruce, Butler, C. W. Butcher, D. Ottumwa, Butcher, William, La Salle, Jennings, James, Mission, Burkart, Joseph, La Salle, Lewis, Edward C. Deer Park, Carlin, John H. Waldman, Lukins, W. H. Bruce, Blanton, W. J. Meriden, Madden, C. H. Mendota, Doyle, Luke, Mendota, Maierhofer, M. Manlius, Dresser, R. S. Groveland, McIntyre, William H. Allen, Dunaway, J. N. Farm Ridge, Nicholson, John, Vermilion, Dwyer, Wm. Ottumwa, Norton, Warren M. Reel, Eades, Fred W. Bruce, O'Loughlin, M. Brookfield, Farnsworth, R. Ottumwa, Phillips, Thomas, Hope, Fischer, Casper, Mendota, Reed, John F. Ottumwa, Gallagher, H. M. Peru, Rowe, R. A. Freedom, Gibbs, Charles, Ottumwa, Sawyer, L. M. Deer Park, Green, Basil, Dayton, Spencer, C. H. Miller, Griffin, H. J. Eden, Thompson, S. S. R. Rapids, Griffin, A. T. Ottumwa, Wilson, John P. Fall River, Helmig, Henry, Peru.

On the call for nominations for chairman Supervisor Griffin placed in nomination Supervisor Lewis, of Deer Park. The clerk waited for other names, but so profound silence ensued that it was evident the anti-Lewis men had concluded they were beaten, and that no other name would be presented. Supervisor O'Loughlin moved that Mr. Lewis be elected by acclamation, and Supervisor Eades supplemented the O'Loughlin motion by moving that the clerk be instructed to cast the vote of the Board for Lewis. The Eades motion prevailed and Supervisor Lewis was declared duly elected. Upon taking the chair he thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him by their renewed expression of confidence in him and approval of his conduct in office during his prior incumbency. He assured them that he would attempt to discharge the duties of his office as best he could and so as to best conserve the public good, that it had come to him without his asking and unsought, and hence the honor of it was the more appreciated. He had never been a candidate for it. The most important matter touched upon by Mr. Lewis in his remarks was the reorganization of the committees. He stated that great pressure had been brought upon him, in case he should be elected, to have him in a measure reorganize the various committees on the Board, but he should not yield to it unless it was the sense of the Board that he should.

Whilst Supervisor Stevenson was preparing a resolution bearing upon the matter touched upon by the chairman, Supervisor O'Loughlin moved that the chair appoint a committee of four, who together with the chair should constitute a special committee on rules. The motion prevailed, and the chair appointed as such committee Supervisors O'Loughlin, Stevenson, Norton and Griffin. Supervisor Stevenson then presented the following resolution:

Resolved, That it is the sense of this Board that the chairman, in the formation of committees should regard the interests of the county and the fitness of the individual members for the positions allotted to them, regardless of any rules or precedent heretofore established, either written or unwritten.

After considerable discussion, participated in by Supervisors Griffin, Fischer and Norton, the resolution as presented was adopted. Supervisor Fischer, inspired by a fear of losing his chairmanship, was very strong in his opposition to the resolution. After a motion, made by Supervisor Madden, that the Board audit all bills presented by Thursday morning, an adjournment was had until 9 o'clock A. M. Tuesday.

TUESDAY.

The excitement of Monday's canvass for an election of chairman had largely died away when the members met on Tuesday morning. The anxiety over the make-up of the committees had not wholly been done away with by their night's sleep, but yet enough of certainty prevailed to allow the members to get together promptly at nine o'clock. The open air concert by Fitzgerald's Brass Band of Monday evening had been taken as a personal compliment by a number of the county's statesmen, and, pleased by it, they were in the best of humor. Clerk McKee was the only man who seemed to be hardly at himself. On one occasion he forgot that he was not discussing democratic politics with the junior member from Mendota, and irreverently called off his name as Charles Madden. The minutes, however, were found to be all right and were quickly approved. The chairman having called for the report of the special committee of Monday on rules, Mr. Supervisor Stevenson presented an elaborate set of rules framed by Messrs. O'Loughlin, Norton, Griffin and himself, creating 21 committees as follows:

Com. on Finance, consisting of 6 members.
" " Court House and Jail, " 3 "
" " Public Buildings, " 5 "
" " Equalization of Lands, " 7 "
" " Equalization of Lots, " 7 "
" " Equalization of Personal Property, " 7 "
" " Abatements, " 3 "
" " Township Organization, " 5 "
" " Roads and Bridges, " 7 "
" " Pauper Accounts, " 5 "
" " Fees and Salaries, " 3 "
" " Miscellaneous Claims, " 5 "
To Settle with County Treasurer, " 3 "
To Settle with County Superintendent, " 3 "
To Settle with Sheriff, " 3 "
To Settle with County Clerk and Recorder, " 3 "
To Settle with Clerks of Circuit and Probate Courts, " 3 "
" " Coal and Gas, " 3 "
" " Mines and Mining, " 3 "
" " Judiciary, " 3 "

" " To Settle with State Charitable Institutions, " 3 "
" " Stationery, " 3 "

The report also defined the duties of each committee in the most specific manner. It further provided that all bills against the county should be itemized and properly sworn and certified to before being acted upon by the Board; that all petitions should be presented before the open Board, before being referred, and that no report of any committee should be acted upon by the Board until its second reading, and that no report should be twice read at the same sitting. In order to have a resolution debated or acted upon it must first have been reduced to writing. The report provided that the rules might be suspended at any time by a vote of two-thirds of the members present. In the settlement of all questions of parliamentary law Roberts' Rules of Order should be standard.

Supervisor Gunn moved that the report be printed and the consideration of it made the special order of business for Wednesday.

Supervisor Dwyer moved, as a substitute for Mr. Gunn's motion, that the report of the committee be received, adopted and approved, and the committee discharged. This called forth a lively debate, participated in by Messrs. Gunn, Eades, Dwyer, Green, O'Loughlin and Hickok. The matter coming to a vote, the Dwyer motion was lost and the motion of Supervisor Gunn, having first been amended to read two o'clock this afternoon, was adopted. On motion of Supervisor O'Loughlin an adjournment was had until two o'clock P. M.

2 O'CLOCK P. M.

Promptly at two o'clock all the members were in their seats ready, as was supposed, to enter upon a discussion of the report of the special committee on rules; but, although the report had been printed and placed on the desks of the members, there was an apparent disposition to postpone action. Supervisor Stevenson, a member of the committee, opened the proceedings by offering the following amendment to the report:

To amend by striking out, in fourth clause of 3d page of the report, all of said clause after the words "respective officers;" also to strike out the entire clause in reference to committee on fees and salaries, and to substitute the following: The chairman of the several committees to settle with the various county officers shall constitute a committee on fees and salaries, whose duty it shall be to recommend to the Board proper salaries for the county officers, as provided by law; and the chairman of the committee to settle with the sheriff shall be chairman of the committee on fees and salaries. And also to change the number of members on fee and salary committee from 3 to 5.

The amendment, without being debated and without being understood in all its scope, was adopted. Supervisor Gunn offered a resolution that the further consideration of the report of the committee be postponed until the September session of the Board. This called forth a very lively debate, participated in by Supervisors Norton, Gunn and O'Loughlin, but on a yeas and nays vote it prevailed by 23 to 18.

The chairman having first announced that the committees would be announced in the morning, the Board adjourned until 9 o'clock A. M.

WEDNESDAY.

It was evident from the attendance of Wednesday morning that the interest of the morning session centered in the announcement of the committees by the chairman, and when, at nine o'clock, Clerk McKee called the roll, all the members responded to their names. The minutes of Tuesday's session were approved, and then the chair announced a recess until the committee cards should be sent from the printer. At the end of five minutes the Board was called to order and the clerk read the committee appointments for 1886-7 as follows:

Finance—Messrs. Sawyer, Nicholson, Lauf, Rowe, Stevenson.
Court House and Jail—Reed, Bowen, Madden, Dunaway, Spencer.
Public Buildings—Griffin, Farnsworth, Carlin, Hollecker, Hildebrand.
Equalization—Lands—McIntyre, Stevenson, Nicholson, Carlin, Wilson, Grandson, Maierhofer.
Equalization—Lots—Eades, Norton, Phillips, Reed, Butterfield, Burkart, Madden.
Equalization—Personal Property—Jennings, Fischer, Dresser, Doyle, Helmig, Brennan, Dinsmore.
Complaints and Abatements—Stevenson, Anderson, Phillips, Jennings, Brennan.
Township Organization—Gallagher, Hickok, Thompson, Butterfield, Hollecker.
Roads and Bridges—Lukins, Anderson, Bubeck, Doyle, Gallagher.
Paupers—O'Loughlin, Bowen, Dunaway, Thompson, Gibbs, Maierhofer.
Fees and Salaries—Fischer, Eades, McIntyre, Griffin, Carlin.
Settle with County Treasurer—Grandson, Gibbs, Lowe.
Claims—Hickok, Ford, Farnsworth, Gunn, O'Loughlin.
Settle with County Superintendent of Schools—Dresser, Spencer, Dinsmore.
Settle with County Officers—Norton, Eades, Gunn, Green, Dwyer.
Settle with State Charitable Institutions—Wilson, Ford, Bubeck.
Stationery—Gunn, Lauf, Dwyer.
Mines and Mining—McLaughlin, Helmig, Lukins.

It is to be noticed that the changes in some of the committee memberships are very marked. New members are to be found on the fee and salary committee, on the pauper claims committee, and the committee to settle with some of the county officers. Supervisor Carlin has been obliged to give way as chairman of the committee to settle with the county treasurer to Supervisor Grandson, who had been chairman of the committee to settle with county officers. In this the chairman made a mistake. The complaint against Supervisor Grandson was incomplete in the position which he held, and certainly the matter has not been remedied by his being placed in a position equally responsible. Then, too, one of the very best men on the Board, Supervisor Carlin, was removed from his chairmanship to give way

to Grandson, although Carlin had discharged his duties in every respect most satisfactorily. It would seem as though the removal of Carlin and the substitution of Grandson was hardly justifiable, except in the light of the chairman's giving him in lieu of his chairmanship places on three very important committees, viz.: on public buildings, equalization of lands, and on fees and salaries.

The hope that Supervisor Fischer, who for a term or two has made himself generally obnoxious, would fall of the chairmanship of the fee and salary committee, also failed of fruition; and, though the committee as now constituted is a fairly good one, it would have been better had Mr. Fischer been retired from the chairmanship of it. The friends of the chairman who had labored zealously for his election were very free to confess, when the committees were announced, that in some respects they were a disappointment, though in many others they were very good.

After studying over the committee appointments for a few minutes, the work of the session was resumed by the presenting of a petition from the Mattheisson & Hegeler Zinc Co., asking the Board to render material aid to Michael Netterney and James Gardner, who some years since were injured while in the employ of such Company, and have since received a pension at their hands. The petition was referred to the committee on pauper claims. Supervisor Jennings presented petition of Levi W. Rood, of Mission, agent for Thos. Eggleston, Geo. W. Eggleston and Robbins Battle, of New York City, setting forth that they were unjustly assessed on money loaned here and asking that the Board abate the same. The petition was sent to the committee on complaints and abatements. A petition from the commissioners of highways of Otter Creek, asking the Board to vote them \$1,000 to assist in repairing damage done the bridge by the storm of May 15th, was presented by Supervisor Stevenson and referred to the committee on roads and bridges.

Supervisor Reed, on behalf of Mrs. E. F. Bull, Mrs. C. D. Trimble, Mrs. J. R. Cameron, and a number of other ladies of Ottawa, presented a petition and supported the same in a few remarks, asking the Board to vote \$6 per month for the maintenance of one Beatrice Burnett, a disolute girl, at the Erring Womens' Refuge, Chicago, where she had been during the past year, supported by private contributions. The petition was referred to the committee on pauper claims. Supervisor Gallagher presented petition from commissioners of highways of Peru, asking an allowance of \$1,472.50—one-half the cost of repairing Illinois river bridge at Peru. Referred to committee on roads and bridges. A petition of the Illinois Central Telephone Company, asking an abatement of the assessment of their property in La Salle county, was read and referred to the committee on complaints and abatements. Also one from S. W. Williams, of Streator, asking a reduction of assessment. A communication from E. W. Haines, of the Chicago Legal Adviser, offering to furnish Illinois statutes to the county for the county's justices at a very moderate price, the same to be paid for by the state in future, was read and referred to the committee on stationery. The report of William Drackley and Samuel Dunnawan, late members of the Board, and a special committee on the Rutland and Fall River bridge, relative to the satisfactory manner in which the bridge had been built, was read and ordered placed on file.

Supervisor McLaughlin asked the chair to appoint a special committee to look after persons who attempted to defraud the county of back taxes, and, in accordance with motion to such effect, a committee consisting of Messrs. Eades, McLaughlin and Fischer was appointed. A general discussion was then entered upon the question of J. Byrne, of La Salle, attempting to avoid paying taxes, resulting in a promise on the part of Supervisor McLaughlin to again call up the matter through means of a resolution. At ten o'clock the Board adjourned until 9 o'clock Thursday A. M.

THURSDAY.

Thursday's roll all showed all the members, with but one or two exceptions, present and ready to enter upon the session's business. The minutes of Wednesday were read and approved. There being neither reports of standing nor of special committees, Supervisor McLaughlin presented a petition from Mrs. E. M. Duncan of La Salle, asking an abatement of the assessment made against her brick building in that city. On motion the same was referred to the committee on complaints and abatements. Supervisor McLaughlin offered a resolution relative to the appointment of judges of election for township of La Salle, which, on suggestion of Supervisor Gallagher, was referred to the committee on township organization.

Supervisor McIntyre precipitated a discussion upon the effect of the rules and regulations relative to supplies for paupers, adopted by the Board at its December session. Supervisor Gunn led off, holding that the rules adopted were binding until repealed. Supervisor O'Loughlin was in doubt, and suggested the propriety of re-adopting them to make the matter certain. Supervisor Norton, joined with Supervisor Gunn, holding that unless the acts of former boards were not binding, there would always be confusion in the conduct of the business of the Board. The chairman suggested that the rules of previous Boards could only be binding upon the present Board by acquiescence or re-adopting.

No conclusion was reached on the question under discussion, and as there appeared to be nothing of a definite character requiring attention, on motion of Supervisor Sawyer the Board adjourned until 9 o'clock Friday A. M. in order to allow the members of the various committees to attend to the committee work.

FRIDAY.

Whatever else may be said of the members of the county's legislature, it cannot be denied that they are always promptly in their seats when the chairman raps them to order. Friday morning proved no exception to the rule and the roll call showed every one on hand. The minutes of Thursday's session were read and approved. The call for Grandson, although Carlin had dis-